2009 H1N1 Virus: Algorithm for Testing at the Washington State Public Health Laboratories (PHL) September 11, 2009
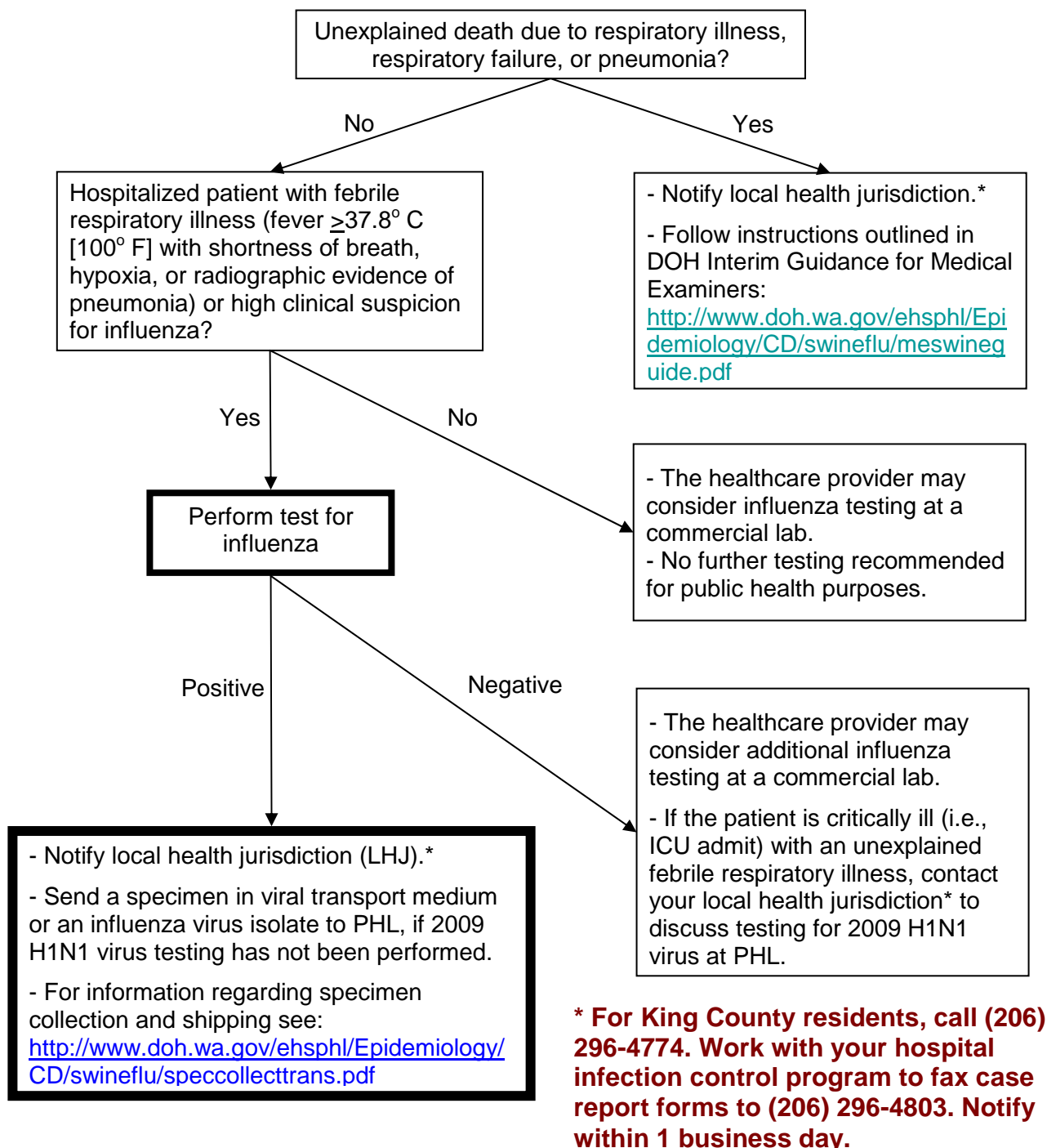
Washington State Department of Health

Unexplained death due to respiratory illness, respiratory failure, or pneumonia?

No →

Hospitalized patient with febrile respiratory illness (fever $\geq 37.8^{\circ}$ C [100° F] with shortness of breath, hypoxia, or radiographic evidence of pneumonia) or high clinical suspicion for influenza?

Yes →

Perform test for influenza

Positive →

- Notify local health jurisdiction (LHJ).*

- Send a specimen in viral transport medium or an influenza virus isolate to PHL, if 2009 H1N1 virus testing has not been performed.

- For information regarding specimen collection and shipping see: http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehsphl/Epidemiology/CD/swineflu/speccollecttrans.pdf

Yes (top) →

- Notify local health jurisdiction.*

- Follow instructions outlined in DOH Interim Guidance for Medical Examiners: http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehsphl/Epidemiology/CD/swineflu/meswineguide.pdf

No →

- The healthcare provider may consider influenza testing at a commercial lab.
- No further testing recommended for public health purposes.

Negative →

- The healthcare provider may consider additional influenza testing at a commercial lab.

- If the patient is critically ill (i.e., ICU admit) with an unexplained febrile respiratory illness, contact your local health jurisdiction* to discuss testing for 2009 H1N1 virus at PHL.

* For King County residents, call (206) 296-4774. Work with your hospital infection control program to fax case report forms to (206) 296-4803. Notify within 1 business day.

Note: Local health jurisdictions have the option to submit specimens from patients who do not fit within this algorithm, including specimens from persons associated with outbreaks.